

MICHAEL F. EASLEY GOVERNOR

NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY

2008

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, America's system of public lands includes parks, unique landscapes, forests, wildlife refuges, historic trails, natural streams and wetlands, nature centers, gardens and other landmark areas throughout the nation that individually and collectively represent irreplaceable national resources; and

WHEREAS, public lands provide locally accessible natural and cultural resources for environmental learning, wildlife appreciation and recreation; and

WHEREAS, public lands promote civic ideals that include shared stewardship and recognition of public ownership; and

WHEREAS, shared stewardship requires the goodwill, cooperation and active support of citizens, community, city and state officials, business leaders, children and adults; and

WHEREAS, The Civilian Conservation Corps (1933-1944) gave our nation a magnificent legacy of stewardship of our treasured natural resources that is being passed to younger generations; and

WHEREAS, land conservation builds awareness among urban dwellers with concerns about planned development, shared land use, preservation of wild areas and natural habitats, and the benefits realized by diligent restoration and enhancement efforts; and

WHEREAS, an alliance between private citizens, land managers and community leaders improves the condition of publicly held lands for the greater enjoyment and enrichment of all Americans; and

WHEREAS, National Public Lands Day, co-sponsored by the National Environmental Education Foundation, the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Reclamation, the Department of Defense, the National Park Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the USDA Forest Service, has become an annually anticipated event for local participation on publicly held lands in this state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL F. EASLEY, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 27, 2008, as "NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY" and call upon citizens to recognize and participate in this special observance.

MICHAEL F. EASLEY

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